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This is an edited version of the 2006 FIFA Futsal Rules, for use for the 2008 Northern BC Winter Games for the Indoor Soccer (Futsal) competition. Please see the Official 2006 FIFA Futsal Rules for detailed explanations.

### The Laws of Futsal

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### Law 1 – The Pitch

#### **Dimensions**

The pitch shall be rectangular. The length of the touch line shall be greater than the length of the goal line.

Length:            minimum 25m  
                         maximum 42m

Width:             minimum 15m  
                         maximum 25m

The goals are 3 x 2 meters.

### Law 2 – The Ball

#### **The ball shall be:**

Spherical and be made of leather or another suitable material. It shall have a circumference of not less than 62 cm and not more than 64 cm. It shall weigh no less than 400 grams and no more than 440 grams at the start of the match. The pressure shall be equal to 0.4-0.6 atmospheres (400–600g/cm<sup>2</sup>) at sea level

### Law 3 – The Players

A match shall be played by two teams, each consisting of no more than five players, one of whom is the goalkeeper.

The number of substitutions that may be made during a match is unlimited.

### Law 4 – The Players' Equipment

A player shall not use equipment or wear anything (including any kind of jewellery) that could be dangerous to themselves or another player.

The basic compulsory equipment of a player comprises the following separate articles:

- Jersey or shirt
- Shorts - if thermal under shorts are worn, these shall be of the same main colour as the shorts
- Socks
- Shin guards - shall be entirely covered by the
- Footwear - the only types of footwear permitted are canvas or soft-leather training or gymnastic shoes with soles of rubber or a similar material
- Goalkeepers shall wear colours that easily distinguish them from the other players and the referees



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#### Law 5 – The Referee

Each match shall be controlled by a referee, who has full authority to enforce the Laws of the Game in connection with the match to which he has been appointed, from the moment he enters the premises where the pitch is located until he leaves them.

#### Law 6 - The second referee

A second referee shall be appointed to operate on the opposite side of the pitch to the referee. He shall also be permitted to use a whistle. The second referee shall help the referee to control the match in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

The second referee shall also:

- Have discretionary powers to stop the game for any infringement of the Laws
- Ensure, together with the referee, that substitutions are carried out properly

#### Law 7 - The timekeeper and the third referee

A timekeeper and third referee shall be appointed. They shall be positioned off the pitch, level with the halfway line and on the same side as the substitution zones. The timekeeper and the third referee shall be equipped with a suitable clock (chronometer) and the necessary equipment to keep a record of accumulated fouls, which shall be supplied by the association or club under whose jurisdiction the match is being played.

#### Law 8 - The duration of the match

The match shall last two equal periods of 15 minutes.

The timekeeping shall be carried out by a timekeeper, whose duties are defined in Law 7.

The duration of either half may be prolonged to enable a penalty kick to be taken, or for a direct free kick to be taken against a team that has committed more than five accumulated fouls.

The teams are entitled to a one-minute time-out in each half.



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#### Law 9 - The start and restart of play

A coin is tossed and the team that wins the toss shall decide which goal it will attack in the first half of the match. The other team shall take the kick-off to start the match. The team that wins the toss shall take the kick-off to start the second half of the match.

At the start of the second half of the match, the teams shall change ends and attack in the opposite direction.

A kick-off is a way of starting or restarting play:

- At the start of the match
- After a goal has been scored
- At the start of the second half of the match
- At the start of each period of extra time

A goal may be scored directly from the kick-off.

#### Law 10 - The ball in and out of play

The ball shall be deemed out of play when:

- It completely crosses the goal line or touch line, whether along the ground or through the air
- Play has been stopped by the referees
- It hits the ceiling

The ball shall be deemed in play at all other times, including when:

- It rebounds off a goalpost or the crossbar onto the pitch
- It rebounds off either of the referees while they are on the pitch

#### Law 11 - The method of scoring

A goal is scored when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line between the goalposts and under the crossbar, unless a member of the attacking team, including the goalkeeper, has deliberately carried, thrown or struck the ball with his hands or arms, and provided that the scoring team has not previously infringed the Laws of the Game.

#### Law 12 - Fouls and misconduct

A direct free kick shall be awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following six infringements in a manner considered by the referees to be careless, reckless or excessively forceful:

- kicking or attempting to kick an opponent
- tripping or attempting to trip an opponent, either by sliding or by bending down in front of or behind an opponent,
- jumping on an opponent
- charging an opponent
- striking or attempting to strike an opponent
- pushing an opponent



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A direct free kick shall also be awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following five infringements:

- holding an opponent
- spitting at an opponent
- sliding in an attempt to play the ball while an opponent is playing it or is about to play it (sliding tackle), except for the goalkeeper in his own penalty area, provided that he does not endanger the safety of an opponent
- touching the opponent before the ball when attempting to win possession
- carrying, striking or throwing the ball with one's hands or arms, except for the goalkeeper in his own penalty area

The direct free kick shall be taken from the place where the infringement occurred, unless the free kick has been awarded to the defending team in its own penalty area, in which case the free kick may be taken from any point inside the penalty area.

**The above-mentioned infringements are accumulated fouls.**

A penalty kick shall be awarded if a player commits any of the aforementioned infringements inside his own penalty area, irrespective of the position of the ball but provided that it is in play.

An indirect free kick shall be awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper commits any of the following offences:

- after clearing the ball, he touches it again with his hands before it has been played or touched by an opponent
- he touches or controls the ball with his hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him by a team-mate
- he touches or controls the ball with his hands after he has received it directly from a kick-in taken by a team-mate
- he touches or controls the ball with his hands or feet in his own penalty area for more than four seconds

An indirect free kick shall also be awarded to the opposing team from the place where the infringement occurred, if, in the opinion of the referee, a player:

- plays in a dangerous manner
- deliberately obstructs an opponent
- prevents the goalkeeper from throwing the ball with his hands
- commits any other infringement not previously mentioned in

Law 12 for which play is stopped to caution or dismiss a player

The indirect free kick shall be taken from the place where the infringement occurred



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### Law 13 - Free kicks

Free kicks are either direct or indirect.

For both direct and indirect free kicks, the ball shall be stationary when the kick is taken and the kicker may not touch the ball a second time until it has touched another player.

#### **The direct free kick**

If a direct free kick directly enters the opponents' goal, a goal shall be awarded.

#### **The indirect free kick**

A goal shall only be awarded if the ball touches another player before it enters the goal.

### Law 14 - Accumulated fouls

Are those punished by a direct free kick as mentioned in Law 12

- the first 5 accumulated fouls committed by each team during each half are recorded in the match report
- the referees may allow play to continue by applying the advantage rule if the team has not yet committed 5 accumulated fouls and the opposing team is not denied an obvious goalscoring opportunity when applying the advantage rule, the referees shall use the mandatory signal to indicate an accumulated foul to the timekeeper and the third referee as soon as the ball is out of play

if extra time is played, accumulated fouls from the second period shall remain valid. Any accumulated fouls during extra time shall be added to the team's total from the second period

### Law 15 - The penalty kick

A penalty kick is awarded against a team that commits any of the infringements for which a direct free kick is awarded inside its own penalty area and while the ball is in play.

A goal may be scored directly from a penalty kick.

Additional time shall be allowed for a penalty kick to be taken at the end of each half or at the end of each period of extra time.

### Law 16 - The kick-in

The kick-in is a method of restarting play.

A goal may not be scored directly from a kick-in.

A kick-in:

- shall be awarded when the whole of the ball crosses the touch line, either along the ground or through the air, or hits the ceiling
- shall be taken from the place where the ball crossed the touch line
- shall be awarded to the opponents of the player who last touched the ball



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#### Law 17 - The goal clearance

The goal clearance is a method of restarting play.

A goal may not be scored directly from a goal clearance.

A goal clearance shall be awarded when:

- the whole of the ball, having last touched a player of the attacking team, crosses the goal line either along the ground or through the air, and a goal is not scored in accordance with Law 11

#### Law - 18 The corner kick

The corner kick is a method of restarting play.

A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick, but only against the opposing team.

A corner kick shall be awarded when:

- the whole of the ball, having last touched a player of the defending team, crosses the goal line either along the ground or through the air, and a goal is not scored in accordance with Law 11